

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **SB 499 - HB 1926**

March 16, 2005

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Prohibits forest land that has been clear cut within the last ten years from being classified as forest land for property tax classification purposes.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Govt. Revenues – Exceeds \$1,500,000**

**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures – Not Significant**

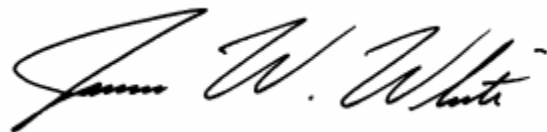
**Increase State Expenditures - \$95,000**

#### Assumptions:

- Local governments will experience an increase in revenues due to increased property tax collections for properties that had formerly been classified as forest land but under the provisions of this bill will no longer be classified as such.
- The forest land tax base is approximately \$6,000,000 and at least 50% of this property has been clear cut in the last ten years.
- 50% of the land that has been clear cut in the last ten years, would have shifted to another land use classification in the absence of this bill.
- 2 additional positions for the state forestry division to conduct additional site evaluations will result in an increase in state expenditures.
- There will be an increased number of appeals resulting in an increase in local government expenditures. This increase is not estimated to be significant.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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